
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6502

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARAPROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SUMMARY:

This bill alters the membership and duties of the Paraprofessional Advisory Council by (1) increasing the required number of paraprofessional members and (2) expanding the council's advisement role. By law, the council advises the education commissioner on paraprofessional training needs.

Current law requires the council's membership to consist of one representative from each paraprofessionals' union, of which there are five. In practice, however, the council has 17 members. The bill requires the council's membership to consist of:

1. one representative from each paraprofessionals' union, who is also a paraprofessional;
2. one representative from each teachers' union;
3. two Regional Education Service Center representatives;
4. the most recent Connecticut Paraprofessional of the Year award recipient; and
5. one school administrator appointed by the Connecticut Federation of School Administrators.

The bill increases the frequency with which the council must advise the education commissioner and adds required advisement topics. Under the bill, the council must advise the commissioner at least quarterly, instead of annually. The bill also expands the topics on which the council must advise the commissioner to include professional development, staffing strategies, and other relevant issues

relating to paraprofessionals.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 34 Nay 0 (03/13/2013)